

### **Claim Amendments**

This listing of claims will replace all versions, and listings, of claims in the application as follows.

### **Listing of Claims**

Claims 1-19. (Canceled)

Claim 20. (Withdrawn): A method of textile dyeing and printing, comprising:  
dyeing or printing a textile with a dye composition or print composition each of which contains a polymeric leveling agent containing units derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle.

Claim 21. (Withdrawn): A method of textile dyeing and printing, comprising:  
dyeing or printing a textile with a dye composition or print composition; and  
thereafter  
treating the dyed or printed textile with auxiliary agents comprising at least one graft polymer constructed of:  
a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units,  
and  
polymeric side chains B that are formed from copolymers of at least two monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle and optionally a comonomer component B3, said side chains B accounting for more than 35 % by weight fraction of said graft polymer.

Claim 22. (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the auxiliaries for textile dyeing are selected from the group consisting of stripping agents, leveling agents and aftersoaping agents.

Claim 23. (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein said polymeric grafting base A is a polyether.

Claim 24. (Withdrawn): A method for stripping off-shade dyeings from textile materials, which comprises:

stripping dye material from a textile with a stripping agent comprising at least one graft polymer constructed from a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and polymeric side chains B that are formed from copolymers of at least two monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle, and additionally at least one comonomer B3, wherein said side chains B account for more than 35 % by weight fraction of said graft polymer.

Claim 25. (Canceled)

Claim 26. (Withdrawn): A method of leveling the dyeing of a textile, which comprises:

dyeing a textile in the presence of a leveling agent containing a graft polymer that is formed of a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and polymeric side chains B formed from copolymers of at least two monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous

heterocycle and optionally additional comonomers B3, wherein said side chains B account for more than 35 % by weight fraction of said graft polymer.

Claims 27 to 29. (Canceled)

Claim 30. (Withdrawn): A method for afterclearing dyed or printed textile, which comprises:

treating a dyed textile with an afterclearing agent containing at least one copolymer containing units derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle in order to remove dye from a textile after having been dyed and to remove unfixed dye from the dyed textile.

Claim 31. (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein at least one copolymer is a graft polymer.

Claim 32 (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein at least one graft polymer is formed of a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and polymeric side chains B formed from copolymers of at least two monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle and optionally additional comonomers B3.

Claim 33. (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein said side chains B account for a more than 35 % by weight fraction of said graft polymer.

Claim 34. (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein said polymeric grafting base A is a polyether.

Claim 35. (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the afterclearing agent comprises at least one additional component that is selected from the group consisting of complexing agents and nonionic surfactants.

Claim 36. (Withdrawn): The method as claimed in claim 32, which is conducted at a weakly acidic to neutral pH.

Claim 37. (Withdrawn): A dyeing or printing auxiliary combination, which comprises:

a copolymer derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle and at least one other auxiliary selected from the group consisting of phosphorus compounds, complexing agents and ionic or nonionic surfactants.

Claim 38. (Canceled)

Claim 39. (Withdrawn): An aftersoaping agent, comprising:

a copolymer derived from at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle in an aqueous liquor containing salts, phosphorus compounds and nonionic surfactants.

Claim 40. (Currently Amended): A method for stripping off-shade dyeings from textile materials, which comprises:

~~stripping dye~~ treating a dyed textile material from a textile with a an aqueous liquor  
~~stripping agent~~ comprising (i) at least one graft polymer which is constructed from a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and grafted polymeric side chains B that are formed from at least 2 different monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2, each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle which in the case of monomer B2 is an imidazole group, and (ii) at least one dispersant, or (iii) at least one reducing agent, or (iv) at least one protective colloid or a combination of two or more of (ii) to (iv) with (i), at a pH ranging from 9 to 13 and at a temperature above room temperature, thereby stripping off-shade dyeings from the textile material.

Claim 41. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 40, wherein monomer B2 is an N-vinylimidazole or an ~~N-alkylvinylimidazole~~ alkylvinylimidazole.

Claim 42. (Previously Presented) A method of leveling the dyeing of a textile, which comprises:

dyeing a textile in an aqueous liquor in the presence of a leveling agent comprising at least one graft copolymer that is formed of a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and grafted polymeric side chains B that are formed from copolymers of at least 2 different monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2, each of which each contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle which in the case of monomer B2 is an imidazole group.

Claim 43. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 42, wherein monomer B2 is an N-vinylimidazole or an ~~N-alkylvinylimidazole~~ alkylvinylimidazole.

Claim 44. (Previously Presented): The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein the amount of polymeric leveling agent ranges from 0.01 to 10 g/l of aqueous liquor.

Claim 45. (Currently Amended) A An aqueous leveling or stripping agent, comprising:

an aqueous solution comprising (i) a graft copolymer that is formed of a polymeric grafting base A which contains no monoethylenically unsaturated units, and grafted polymeric side chains B formed from copolymers of at least 2 monoethylenically unsaturated monomers B1 and B2 each of which contains at least one nitrogenous heterocycle which in the case of monomer B2 is an imidazole group, and (ii) at least one dispersant, or (iii) at least one reducing agent, or (iv) at least one protective colloid or a combination of two or more of (ii) to (iv) with (i).

Claim 46. (Currently Amended): The method of Claim 45, wherein monomer B2 is an N-vinylimidazole or an ~~N-alkylvinylimidazole~~ alkylvinylimidazole.